



CITY MANAGER

**CITY OF SAN JOSE, CALIFORNIA**

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FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION  
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

MAY 28 1993

MAIL BRANCH

Federal Communications Commission  
199 M Street  
Washington, D.C. 20554

Dear Sir or Madam:

Responsibility for communications functions for the City of San Jose are coordinated through our Department of General Services. I have directed the technical staff of that department to review the proposal identified as PR Docket 92-235, "Replacement of Part 90 by Part 88 to Revise the Private Land Mobile Radio Services and Modify the Policies Governing Them."

The attached analysis prepared by Jeffrey J. Thomas, Communications Technical Manager, reflects the City of San Jose's position on this issue. While the City strongly supports advances in technology that increase communication capability, the short time provided for implementation will cause an undue hardship on the City of San Jose and other local governments.

Sincerely,

Leslie R. White

Attachment

cc: John Montgomery  
Ralph Haller, Chief Private Radio Bureau

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Before  
Federal Communications Commission  
Washington, D.C.

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FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION  
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

In the Matter of

Replacement of Part 90 by  
Part 88 to Revise the Private  
Land Mobile Radio Services and  
Modify the Policies Governing  
Them

PR Docket 92-235

COMMENTS OF

**THE CITY OF SAN JOSE**  
San Jose, California

The City of San Jose submits its comments in response to the Commission's Notice of Proposed Rule Making in this proceeding.

1. As the third largest City in California and the eleventh largest in the nation, the City of San Jose will face a financial impact of disastrous proportions in implementing PR Docket 92-235. Since implementation will involve replacing practically our entire radio communications infrastructure, we have estimated this impact to be approximately \$10 million.

The City of San Jose is in agreement of the need at some point in time to move forward and implement new technology. However, what we feel must be taken into consideration, is the current fiscal crisis overshadowing government at all levels, and the further financial burden this Docket will place on an already grave situation. The City of San Jose is currently facing a \$40 million shortfall for FY 1993-1994. The immediate future is not a bright one. The prospect of somehow having to mitigate another \$10 million outlay two short years from now, to help usher in the latest technological advancements, is unrealistic.

2. As an active member of the Associated Public-Safety Communications Officers, Inc. (APCO), the City of San Jose fully supports APCO's already stated position regarding PR Docket 95-235. APCO, as our representative organization, has already submitted to you its official comments regarding PR Docket 95-235. The following comments are those which are of particular concern to the City of San Jose:
  - A. Develop a separate section of the rules to apply to Public Safety only. These separate rules would be mainly concerned with channel assignment and usage, power and modulation limitations and similar issues. APCO is prepared to provide detailed information on each of the separate issues.
  - B. Change the proposed channel assignments in the 150/160 MHz band to eliminate the proposed interleaving of non-public safety services, and restore to public safety all of the spectrum which is presently allocated for that purpose in Part 90.

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- C. Recognize that current technology dictates 6.25 KHz as the narrowest feasible channel width for all channels in the 150/160 MHz band and the 800 MHz and 900 MHz portion of the spectrum. This would be the end result of channel division, and would not be immediately possible with existing state of the art equipment.
- D. Adopt 4 KHz as the maximum modulation deviation for FM stations. This is presently the standard for the NPSPAC 800 MHz channels and is the minimum recommended by major manufacturers as providing sufficient bandwidth to support a 9.6 kbs channel bit rate (as determined by Project 25 engineering and field tests).
- E. Adopt a two phase implementation plan as follows:
  - (i) 12.5 KHz becomes the standard channel bandwidth for new licenses in all PLMR Services 12 months following the adoption of the Report and Order. This insures economies of scale in equipment production for all PLMRS users. Importantly, it also provides public safety with the assurance of compatibility with Federal standards recently adopted by NTIA and now being implemented by many Federal agencies.
  - (ii) The Report and Order should be revisited five years following adoption with the stated goal of reducing bandwidth to 6.25 KHz, based on engineering studies current at that time. (Note: This would not preclude earlier action, but would ensure the study would be left open and reexamined.)
- F. Adopt a rule charging certified frequency coordinators in the Public Safety Service to limit transmitter power, antenna gain and pattern to that which is necessary to provide a signal strength contour of 5.0 microvolts at the extreme edges of the boundaries of the political jurisdiction for which the licensee is responsible. This is necessary to enhance signal penetration throughout the service area. Field strength plots may be required of the applicant by the coordinator as deemed necessary to ensure coverage is limited to appropriate areas. These plots shall be prepared using standard models approved by the Commission. APCO can recommend appropriate non-proprietary models for this purpose.
- G. Existing licensed transmitters with designs that do not allow for reduction in power due to the generation of spurious harmonics must be grandfathered at current power levels until the current equipment is replaced.
- H. Leave the general designation of Public Safety on all channels as proposed, and on those which would be added or restored to public safety as a portion of this request.

Restore the original channel spacing of 25 KHz on all UHF channels from 450 to 512 MHz. Split this into 12.5 KHz increments in the first phase and 6.25 KHz in the second phase, still indexed on channels as they appear in Part 90. This would greatly facilitate near term use of the 12.5 KHz channels as they could be assigned for immediate use with appropriate geographic separation. As equipment improves, geographic separation can be reduced or eliminated.

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Except on channels specifically designated for low power use in Part 90, modify power restriction on all Public Safety Service channels as follows:

1. Remove the low power restriction on all 12.5 KHz offset Public Safety Service channels in the 460-470 MHz band. Allow full power on these channels twelve months after adoption of the Report and Order, provided that all new equipment meets the 12.5 KHz parameters listed above. Continue to permit low power (2 watt) operation on a secondary basis as at present.
2. Retain low power restrictions on all 12.5 KHz offset Public Safety Service channels in the 450-460 MHz band. This restriction provides a "protected home" for thousands of low power (2 watt) systems that are critical to public safety communication operations around the United States.

This proposal would provide near term relief for frequency shortage in these two areas, and allow for expansion of existing systems, providing that new equipment with higher standards is procured.

- I. There is a compelling need for mobile relay operation in the 150/160 MHz band. There are presently nearly 19,000 FB2 stations licensed in this band to all public safety services. In some areas, geography requires use of mobile relays for mobile-to-mobile radio coverage. It is imperative that this type of system be continued.
- J. Specific channels in each band need to be reserved for mutual aid use. We believe that some of these channels should be service specific, at least for police, fire and medical, while others should be shared.

While the concept of "refarming" is a good one, the timing is not. It is the City of San Jose's position that more time for implementation be given to those of us in the Public Safety community so severely affected by PR Docket 95-235.

Respectfully submitted,



Jeffrey J. Thomas  
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May 25, 1993